

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 IO-13 /071 W
-----121404Z 058292 /43

O R 121245Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 585
INFO AMEMBASSY CAPETOWN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 2055

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SW, RH
SUBJECT: VISIT OF NKOMO TO SWEDEN

REF: STOCKHOLM 1998

1. EMBASSY OFFICER RECEIVED BRIEFING FROM SWEDISH MFA
OFFICIAL WHO PARTICIPATED IN VISIT OF JOSHUA NKOMO TO
STOCKHOLM MAY 9-11. NKOMO, WHO CAME TO STOCKHOLM DIRECTLY
FROM HIS MEETINGS IN LONDON, MET WITH LEADING GOS OFFICIALS,
DISCUSSED THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, AND REVIEWED
COOPERATION WITH SWEDEN.

2. NKOMO HAD A FULL SCHEDULE DURING HIS FIRST VISIT TO SWEDEN,
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AND HAD MEETINGS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SODER, MFA OFFICERS,
AID MINISTER ULLSTEN, THE SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (SIDA), SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC
LEADER OLOF PALME, CHURCH GROUPS, THE PRESS, AND
THE AFRICAN AMBASSADORS. HIS REMARKS TO THE PRESS
ARE REPORTED REFTEL.

3. AT THE MFA NKOMO REVIEWED HIS TALKS WITH SECRETARY VANCE IN LONDON AND THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN SITUATION. TALKS WITH VANCE WERE NECESSARY, HE SAID, BECAUSE OF SERIOUS DOUBTS ABOUT THE ADVISABILITY OF THE APPROACH UK FOREIGN MINISTER OWEN SEEMED TO BE PURSUING IN PROPOSING A CO-SPONSORSHIP ROLE FOR THE US, DOUBTS WHICH HAD BEEN MADE CLEAR TO OWEN WHEN HE WAS IN AFRICA. NKOMO TOLD MFA THAT HE HAD NOT QUITE UNDERSTOOD WHAT "CO-SPONSORSHIP" MEANT, AND THOUGH HE THOUGHT THE US SHOULD PLAY A PART IN BRINGING ABOUT A SOLUTION IN ZIMBABWE, HE OPPOSED A FORMAL ROLE FOR THE US IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE BRITISH BECAUSE IT WOULD BRING COMPLICATIONS, OTHER FOREIGN INVOLVEMENT, AND "CONTROVERSY" INTO THE REGION AND ANY CONFERENCE (SEE REFTEL).

4. NKOMO EXPLAINED TO MFA OFFICIALS THAT WHEN HE HAD TALKED TO SECRETARY VANCE AND EXPLAINED THE CONCERNS OF THE NATIONALISTS ABOUT THE PROPOSALS FLOATED BY OWEN, THE SECRETARY HAD AT ONCE ASSURED HIM THAT THE US DID NOT INTEND TO PLAY SUCH A ROLE IN THE INDEPENDENCE PROCESS. NKOMO STATED THAT HE TOOK THIS AS A US WITHDRAWAL FROM THE PROPOSALS. MFA OFFICIAL NOTED THAT NKOMO APPARENTLY SEES A ROLE FOR THE US IN APPLYING PRESSURE TO THE BRITISH, SMITH AND VORSTER OUTSIDE A FORMAL FRAMEWORK, AND THAT NKOMO INDICATED SEVERAL TIMES THAT HE STILL IS NOT CERTAIN WHAT "CO-SPONSORSHIP" ENTAILS.

5. PRESS REPORTS ON WASHINGTON LEAK OF OUTLINES OF CONFIDENTIAL

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BRITISH PLAN, WHICH IMPLIED JOINT US-UK EFFORT, APPEARED HERE JUST AS NKOMO WAS LEAVING. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION FROM MFA OFFICIAL ON WAY TO AIRPORT, NKOMO STATED IT WAS STILL HIS IMPRESSION THAT THE US IS NO LONGER INTENDING TO PLAY A "CO-SPONSORSHIP" ROLE.

6. IN DISCUSSING CONTINUED NEGOTIATIONS, NKOMO MAINTAINED THAT THE BRITISH MUST MAKE THE AIMS OF TALKS, AND PROSPECTS FOR SUCCESS, CLEAR. "I DO NOT SEE," HE TOLD THE MFA, "THAT THE ELEMENTS (FOR ANOTHER CONFERENCE) ARE THERE JUST THREE MONTHS AFTER GENEVA... WHAT HAS CHANGED... WHAT IS IMPORTANT IS TO REMOVE THE CAUSE OF WAR, THAT IS, MR. SMITH."

7. NKOMO DISCUSSED THE NEED FOR AID FOR REFUGEE CAMPS IN GENERAL TERMS, AND CLAIMED CONTINUED PROGRESS IN PATRIOTIC FRONT COORDINATION. MFA OFFICIAL ADDED THAT GOS HAS RECEIVED REQUESTS FOR HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FROM ZANU AND ZAPU, AND A DECISION, PRESUMABLY POSITIVE,

SHOULD BE TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

8. NKOMO LEFT STOCKHOLM MAY 11 TO SPEND SOME TIME
IN EAST BERLIN. HE APPARENTLY WILL NOT BE ATTENDING
THE MAPUTO UN CONFERENCE ON NAMIBIA AND ZIMBABWE,
ACCORDING TO MFA SOURCE.
PERRY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STOCKH02055
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770167-0802
Format: TEL
From: STOCKHOLM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770564/aaaacdhm.tel
Line Count: 123
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d5c5b695-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STOCKHOLM 1998
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2545623
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF NKOMO TO SWEDEN
TAGS: PFOR, SW, RH, (NKOMO, JOSHUA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d5c5b695-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009